(b) if so, whether Government is considering to motivate forest villagers to become protectors to save the dwindling tiger population in other reserves like Corbett, Ranthambore and Nayamgiri forest in Orissa etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As reported by the State, in the Periyar Tiger Reserve of Kerala, through ecodevelopment initiatives, the tiger reserve management has been successful in turning poachers into protectors of wildlife.

(b) and (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger funding support is being provided to all tiger range States, which *inter alia*, include ecodevelopment of villages around tiger reserves for eliciting local support towards conservation, through reciprocal commitments.

Rising level of air pollution

2216. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rising level of air pollution in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is commissioning high-tech machines that can measure even the smallest toxic particles floating in the air; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The ambient air quality is monitored at 7 (seven) locations in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). These locations include residential areas, industrial areas and traffic intersection. As per the monitored data, the levels of sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide in the ambient air are showing a decreasing trend. The nitrogen dioxide levels decreased during the year 2007 in comparison to 2006. The concentration of the Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) in residential and Industrial areas indicates mixed trend during 2001-2007.

(c) and (d) Sophisticated equipments for 3 (three) Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) and 7 (seven) $PM_{2.5}$ Samplers have been procured by the CPCB for monitoring of gaseous pollutants including fine particulate matter for assessing the ambient air quality in the NCT of Delhi.

Pamba Action Plan

2217. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a project proposal 'Pamba Action Plan' has been submitted to Government;

(b) if so, the details of proposal thereof;

(c) whether necessary approval has been given to the proposal;